

## “I Believe in Jamaica”

The 48th Anniversary Gala held August 7, 2010 at 7pm on the grounds of JCA was very well attended! Jamaicans came out in full support of the event from Hamilton, Oakville and as far as Philadelphia to celebrate the evening with fellow Jamaicans but most of all with an extraordinary lady. The Most Honorable Portia Simpson-Miller, the keynote speaker for the event.

Mrs. Simpson-Miller delivered a powerful speech focused on the theme, “I Believe”. She encouraged Jamaican-Canadians to continue investing in Jamaica as it is only through continued support and investment in Jamaica that we can be the best, as we are known around the world. Mrs. Simpson-Miller reinforced that as Jamaicans, we can do any and everything we put our minds to as the ending letters of our nationality emphasizes same, ‘I CAN’, short for ‘JamaICAN’. Her message was well received by the crowd as she received standing ovation and resounding praises and applaud from the audience.

Various Awards were also presented to individuals and an organization for their contribution to JCA. Erma Collins, Alton Telfer and Madge Cameron

received the Lifetime Award. Neville Walters received the 40 year pin, Dwight Gordon was awarded the President’s Award and Sheila Raymond was the winner of the Outstanding Volunteer. Police Chief Armand La Barge was the proud recipient of the Community Service Award and Eddie Grant of CHRY as well as CHRY received the Special Award of Recognition.

The evening ended with pulsating music from the Arsenals and DJ Rosa.

By Yolán Williams



*From left to right: Marcia Brown, Audrey Campbell, The Most Hon. Portia Simpson-Miller, Dr. Gervan Fearon*